

MASON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2
Mason County, Washington
January 1, 1990 Through December 31, 1992

Schedule Of Findings

1. Payment Should Be Made For The Use Of District Facilities By Outside Interest

The district has not been charging for the use of district facilities. A nonprofit organization has been using the facilities to hold monthly meetings and weekly bingo games, and has been storing equipment and supplies without charge.

Article VIII, Section 7 of the Washington State Constitution states in part:

No county, city, town or other municipal corporation shall hereafter give any money, or property, or loan its money, or credit to or in aid of any individual, association, company or corporation, except for the necessary support of the poor and infirm

The district has not adopted policies regarding the use of facilities because they were unaware of this prohibition.

The use of district facilities without charge violates the state constitution and results in public funds being used to subsidize a private organization.

We recommend the district establish a policy regarding user fees of district facilities sufficient to recoup related costs and ensure fees are collected.